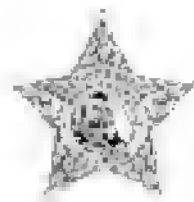


AFFIDAVIT

Sheriff's
Polk County



Office
Winter Haven, FL

JPM 11/11/12

Agency ORI Number
FLO530000

INCIDENT NUMBER
120089756

JUVENILE

X

ADULT

BOOKING #

OFFENSE

IN CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR POLK
COUNTY, FL

SUBMITTING MEMBER SMITH, KEVIN SCOTT

MEMBER # 5794

DATE/TIME OF ARREST/INCIDENT

11/30/2012 04:30:00

LOCATION OF INCIDENT 1325 LAKEVIEW RD LAKE WALES

NOTICE TO APPEAR

COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT

X

ARREST REPORT

CITY OF LAKE WALES (Unincorporated)

COUNTY OF POLK, STATE OF FLORIDA

RIGHT THUMB PRINT

THE UNDERSIGNED AFFIANT SWEARS SHE/HIS HAS JUST AND REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT ON

11/29/12 AT

APPROXIMATELY 08:38:00

IN THE VICINITY OF

LAKE WALES

POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA

RICHARDS, BETH DICKISON

ALIAS

LAST

FIRST

MIDDLE

ADDRESS 1325 LAKEVIEW RD LAKE WALES, FL 33853

PHONE

RACE/SEX

W/F

DOB

5/9/1975 HT

508 WT

160 EYE

BLU

HAIR

BRN

COMP

FAR

BUILD

Small

SPEECH

NOR

SCARS

POB

, KY

MARITAL STATUS

DL#

ST FL

SSN

OCCUPATION

CARRIER

EMPLOYER/SCHOOL

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

PHONE

JUV-PARENTS

PHONE

n/a

NOTICE TO APPEAR/OF APPOINTMENT

I AGREE TO APPEAR IN COURT/JAC AT _____, FLORIDA ON
_____ 20 _____ AT _____ AM/PM TO ANSWER THE CHARGE(S) IN THIS COMPLAINT OR
TO PAY THE PRESCRIBED FINE FOR THIS OFFENSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT A WILLFUL FAILURE TO APPEAR WILL RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR
MY ARREST AND MAY BE A NEW OFFENSE (DO NOT BE LATE)

Defendant/Violators Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

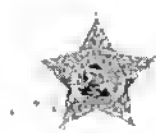
COMMITTED THE OFFENSE(S) OF:

Murder 1st Degree Premeditated (ATTEMPTED)	ESS FAC CO	782.04(1)(A) Counts: 1	LEVEL/DEGREE	F1
Poison Food/Water/Medicine WIT Kill/Injure	ESS FAC CO	859.01 Counts: 1	LEVEL/DEGREE	F1
CANNABIS POSSESS Not More Than 20 grams	ESS FAC CO	893.13(6)(B) Counts: 1	LEVEL/DEGREE	M1
Poss./Use Narcotic Paraphernalia	ESS FAC CO	893.147(1) Counts: 1	LEVEL/DEGREE	M1

ORIGINAL

AFFIDAVIT
CONTINUATION

Sheriff's
Polk County



Office
Winter Haven, FL

FORM #600-A, Revised 12/11

Agency ORI Number
FL0530000

INCIDENT NUMBER
120089756

CO-DEFENDANT:

VICTIM/WITNESS:

Victim	RICHARDS, GREGORY LAWRENCE	HM	1325 LAKEVIEW RD	LAKE WALES	FL	33853	(863)258-6440	12/4/12
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PROBABLE CAUSE: Please list all victims/witnesses with Name, DOB, Address and Phone

On 11/29/2012 at approximately 6:30PM, deputies responded to 1136 Circle Drive in Lake Wales Florida in reference to a reported poisoning. Deputies arrived and made contact with the reporting person, Joan Jarvis; a witness, Jessica Jarvis; and the victim, Gregory Richards. Upon arrival, your affiant made contact with these individuals and they all provided sworn taped statements alleging the victim's wife, Beth D. Richards, attempted to poison the victim.

Your affiant obtained sworn, recorded statements and directed the collection of evidence establishing that the suspect, Beth Richards, purposely placed Trazodone in the victim's food which he consumed without knowledge of the contamination. During his recorded statement, the victim stated he woke up on the morning of 11/29/12 as usual and his wife, Beth Richards, made him a lunch. This lunch included a tuna fish sandwich. The victim stated he went to a local worksite, where he works as an electrician. Later in the day, he received a text message from his wife, the suspect, asking him if he had eaten his sandwich yet. The victim later consumed a little over half of the sandwich, but thought it tasted odd. He explained that the sandwich had an aspirin aftertaste. The victim became very dizzy and nauseous for several hours as a result of consuming this contaminated food. In fact and according to the victim, he blacked out at one time and fell from a ladder at work.

During the recorded, sworn statement of the witness, Jessica Jarvis, she described that she was the suspect's stepsister and had not talked to the suspect until approximately one month ago. Jessica described their conversations at first to contain some humor from the suspect in which she referenced putting things the victim is allergic to under the victim's bed. This witness stated the suspect also asked her if she knew if gold dust would kill someone. Jessica stated she thought the suspect was joking, but that on 11/29/2012 sometime around noon the suspect came to her residence and told her she crushed up eight Trazadone pills and put them in the victim's tuna fish sandwich in order to kill him. Jessica stated the suspect told her she wanted to kill the victim and she thought the pills in his food would cause an accident that would take his life. Jessica, who was disturbed with this, asked the suspect how and why she would do this. The suspect told Jessica she used crushed Trazodone and combined it with the sandwich she provided to the victim for lunch. Jessica stated the suspect told her that if the sandwich did not work, she would put the remaining ten pills in his dinner. Jessica stated the victim counted out the ten pills in front of her. Jessica stated to your affiant at that point she contacted the victim's family, who in turn warned him.

Your affiant made contact with the suspect at approximately 11:30PM and she consented to a search of her residence located at 1325 Lakeview Road in Lake Wales. This was the location where the suspected poisoned food was prepared. During this consensual search your affiant located a small tan and brown handbag in the drawer next to the bed in the master bedroom. Your affiant opened the bag and could smell the odor of what he recognized as cannabis coming from the bag. Your affiant could also see a dark leafy substance in the bag that he suspected to be cannabis. Your affiant asked the suspect if there was cannabis in the bag and she said she did not know, but that she has used the bag to transport cannabis in the past. The dark leafy substance field tested positive for cannabis.

The suspect was arrested and your affiant read her Miranda rights to her from an agency issued Miranda card.

Post Miranda, the suspect confessed that she did crush the Trazodone up in a clear plastic bag and prepared three separate sandwiches, placing the crushed pills in his sandwich only. The suspect also admitted that she did confide in her stepsister, Jessica Jarvis, about what she had done, but stated she only used two or three pills. The suspect stated she did this because the victim was verbally abusive. The suspect stated she knew it was wrong and she was sorry.

Based on this investigation, it was determined that the defendant committed attempted first degree murder in that

AFFIDAVIT
CONTINUATION

Sheriff's
Polk County



Office
Winter Haven, FL

F. BENTLEY, III, Revised 01/09/08

Agency ORI Number
FL0530000

INCIDENT NUMBER
120089756

she crushed eight Trazadone pills and maliciously placed them into the victim's food with the premeditated design to affect the death of the victim.

Based on this investigation, it was determined the suspect intentionally and unlawfully added a chemical compound (Trazodone) to the victim's food, which was consumed by the victim, with the intent to cause his death. As a result of this act, the victim became both drowsy and nauseous to the point he briefly lost consciousness.

The suspect was arrested and transported to the Polk County Jail without incident.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, THIS 30 DAY OF November

This affidavit was electronically signed

CARVER,SHAUN 5369

DEPUTY CLERK/NOTARY PUBLIC/EO

SMITH,KEVIN SCOTT 5794

AFFIANT